

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 166329
ORIGIN SS-15

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNA:BJSHARP

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 166329

EXDIS FOR AMB. YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT DAR ES SALAAM 2769 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO
GABORONE LAGOS LONDON LUSAKA MAPUTO PRETORIA JUNE 28.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2769

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, RH

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: VIOLENCE AGAINST UNARMED CIVILIANS

REF: STATE 164007

1. IN ITS FREQUENT MEETINGS WITH TANGOV OFFICIALS AND
REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS LIBERATIONS GROUPS, EMBASSY
HAS CONSISTENTLY TAKEN OCCASION TO DEPLORE ACTIONS
AGAINST CIVILIAN, NONCOMBATANT ELEMENTS OF POPULATION
IN RHODESIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. TANZANIAN VIEW,
SHARED IN ALL PROBABILITY BY MAJORITY OF POPULATION,
IS THAT WE HAVE WRONG ADDRESS AND SHOULD INSTEAD BE
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TALKING TO SMITH AND SELOUS SCOUTS.

2. TYPICAL OF TANZANIA'S ATTITUDE IS TODAY'S EDITORIAL
ON JUNE 23 DEATH OF 12 MISSIONARIES. ARTICLE DESCRIBES
INCIDENT AS "GRIM REMINDER OF NATURE OF WAR.... IN
ORDER TO END WAR, WE MUST WAGE WAR. IN COURSE OF
THIS WAR A LOT OF INNOCENT PEOPLE ARE BOUND TO LOSE

THEIR LIVES. SMITH AND HIS SUPPORTERS ARE TO BLAME."

3. ON BALANCE, WE BELIEVE THAT FORMAL REPRESENTATIONS
HERE REGARDING ATROCITIES SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE AND
EVEN TEND, RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, TO IDENTIFY US MORE
CLOSELY WITH OPPOSING SIDE. ON OTHER HAND, TANZANIANS
ARE ATTENTIVE TO OFFICIAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS EMANATING
FROM WASHINGTON. THESE SERVE TO GET OUR MESSAGE
ACROSS TO ALL BELLIGERENTS AND THEIR PATRONS IN FORCE-
FUL, NONPARTISAN FASHION. SUCH STATEMENTS, IN OUR
VIEW, ARE THEREFORE BEST MEANS OF REGISTERING OUR CON-
CERN AND OF MODERATING, HOWEVER INDIRECTLY, LEVEL OF
VIOLENCE.

SPAIN

UNQUOTE VANCE

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